

2011 - 2012

Missouri Benefits and Resource Guide



FOR VETERANS & MILITARY

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**Governor
Jeremiah
W.
(Jay)
Nixon**



Dear Veteran,

On behalf of the six million citizens of the State of Missouri, I want to thank you for your service. We owe a debt of gratitude to veterans, military service members and their families that can never be repaid.

To honor your service and sacrifice, our nation and state strive to offer the best benefits and services possible. Missouri has earned a reputation for offering one of the most comprehensive benefits packages of any state in the nation. This benefit guide is designed to serve as a resource to improve the lives of Missouri's veterans and includes helpful contacts and links to information on programs and services provided by the State.

All citizens of Missouri are indebted to you for your commitment, service and sacrifice, and I am honored to serve as your Governor. Again, thank you for your service to our country and state.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor of Missouri

Executive Director Larry Kay



Dear Veteran,

The Missouri Veterans Commission is proud to provide this guide of State Benefits, Programs, and Services for Missouri's Veterans. This guide is meant to be a comprehensive resource to Veterans benefits in the State of Missouri.

General George Washington once said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive Veterans of early wars were treated and appreciated by our nation." Washington's words hold true today.

The country and the State of Missouri are truly grateful for your service and sacrifice. Take some time to read this guide, contact a Veterans Service Officer, sign up for VA healthcare, and join a Veterans Service Organization. You earned it.

Larry D. Kay
Executive Director
Missouri Veterans Commission

Missouri Veterans Commis- sion

1-866-VET-INFO
www.mvc.dps.mo.gov

The Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC) is a state agency established by Missouri Statute to aid all Veterans, their dependents, and legal representatives by providing information regarding the rights of Veterans and their dependents and to assist Veterans accessing their available benefits through State and Federal Government.

Our Mission

The Missouri Veterans Commission will provide our Veterans with timely benefits assistance, skilled nursing care and a final resting place with honor.

Our History

Missouri has a long tradition of honoring and serving its Veterans. This tradition started in 1897, when the State took over operations of the Federal Soldiers Home in St. James and the Confederate Soldiers Home in Higginsville. These homes were initially managed by the Board of Eleemosynary Institutions, and later by the Department of Health and Welfare until 1950 when the Confederate Home closed, and 1974 when the Federal Home in St. James was transferred to the Division of Veterans Affairs.

The Missouri Veterans Commission has its roots in the passage of House Bill 493 which in 1931 established the first State Service Officer. Over the years, this office has expanded and changed from one Service Officer, to the Division of Veterans Affairs after World War II, to its replacement by the 1989 creation and establishment of the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Today, the Missouri Veterans Commission manages seven long term skilled nursing homes, six state Veterans cemeteries, provides benefits assistance through its Service Officers, assists Veterans through an Ombudsman program and has initiatives for Veterans Outreach, Minority Veterans, Women Veterans, and Incarcerated Veterans.

Purpose of the Guide

This booklet is designed to bring together all benefits available by the State of Missouri as well as briefly cover related services provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

This benefits guide is a constant work in progress as new benefits become available to Veterans and their dependents. The most current version can be found online at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov. Look under “Key Messages” on the left of the website.

Getting the most out of Available Benefits

There are three things a Veteran, family member of a Veteran, or surviving spouse of a Veteran can do that will ensure they will receive all available benefits.

- See a Veterans Service Officer - A service officer provides benefits counseling and claims assistant for Veterans and their dependents.
- Sign up for VA Healthcare - a majority of benefits that are available are healthcare related, from medical services to medications.
- Join a Veterans Service Organization - members of Veterans Service Organizations are usually the first to hear about new benefits. They also provide camaraderie and support to fellow Veterans. Most service organizations have auxiliaries available to family members.

Veterans Service Officers

Veterans Service Officers (VSO) are located throughout the state and can assist you if you are a Veteran, widow/widower of a Veteran, child of a deceased or disabled Veteran, or a parent who has lost a son or daughter in military service.

Service officers provide counseling and assistance when you have questions about compensation, pensions, education benefits, life insurance, medical benefits, state benefits, and burial benefits.

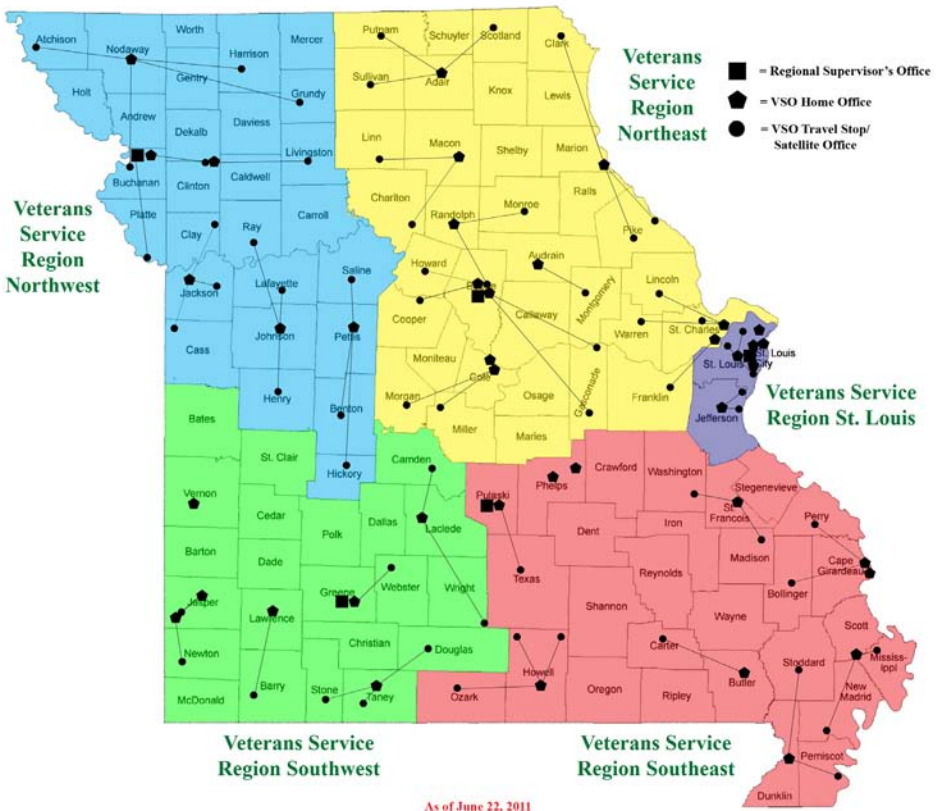
These trained professionals will also assist with completing and submitting claims applications to make sure all necessary documentation is attached.

A VSO will maintain your casefile and is always available to provide information, referrals, and advocate on your behalf.

Missouri Veterans Commission service officer locations can be found on the following pages as well as online at <http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/serviceofficer>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may call toll free 1-866-VET-INFO or 573-751-3779 and a Missouri Veterans Commission employee will assist you in finding your local Veterans Service Officer.

Many Veterans Service Organizations may also have a service officer available. Check with your local posts or contact the service organizations listed on page 16-17 to find the nearest service officer.

MVC Veterans Service Officer Locations



The Missouri Veterans Commission Veterans Service Program is divided into five state regions. Each region has a supervisor who reports to the program director. Under each supervisor are that region's Veterans Service Officers. Inside each region, service officers have a coverage area, usually defined by county, with a home office and possibly one or more outreach locations.

Veterans Service Officers

MVC Regional Supervisor Offices

Northeast

1500 Vandiver Drive, Suite 107
Columbia, MO 65202
573-882-5135

Southeast

140 Replacement Ave.
Building 470, Room 2218-A
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473
573-596-0193

Northwest

525 Jules, Room 320
St. Joseph, MO 64501
816-387-2841

Southwest

1410 S. Kansas Expressway
Room #115
Springfield, MO 65807
417-895-6532

St. Louis

VA Regional Office, Room 107
400 South 18th Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2271
314-552-9885

MVC Northeast Region

County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Adair, Knox, Putnam,
Schuyler, Scotland, Sullivan

Courthouse
106 West Washington, 1st Floor
Kirksville, MO 63501
660-785-2460

Audrain, Montgomery

#1 Veterans Drive
Mexico, MO 65265
573-581-1088 ext. 258

Boone, Callaway, Cooper,
Gasconade, Howard

1500 Vandiver Drive, Suite 107
Columbia, MO 65202
573-882-5135

Chariton, Linn, Macon

1716 N. Prospect, Suite A
Macon, MO 63552
660-385-6192

Clark, Lewis, Marion,
Pike, Ralls, Shelby

203 North 6th St.
Hannibal, MO 63401
573-248-2550

Cole, Maries, Miller,
Moniteau, Morgan, Osage

205 Jefferson Street, 12th Floor
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-751-3779

Monroe, Randolph

310 East McKinsey St.
Moberly, MO 65270
660-263-4960

Franklin, Lincoln,
St. Charles, Warren

201 N. Second St., Suite 323
St. Charles, MO 63301
636-949-7900

Veterans Service Officers

MVC Northwest Region County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Atchison, Daviess, Gentry, Grundy,
Harrison, Mercer, Nodaway, Worth

303 E. Summit Drive
Maryville, MO 64468
660-582-0436

Andrew, Buchanan, Holt, Platte

525 Jules, Room 320
St. Joseph, MO 64501
816-387-2841

Caldwell, Carroll,
Clinton, Dekalb, Livingston

1111 Euclid
Cameron, MO 64429
816-632-1459

Cass, Clay, Jackson

11101 Independence Ave.
Independence, MO 64054-1151
816-836-0005 Ext. 2278

Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Ray

1300 Veterans Road
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-543-7930

Benton, Hickory, Pettis, Saline

816 Westwood
Sedalia, MO 65301
660-530-5544

MVC Southeast Region

County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Pulaski, Texas

Building 470 Room 2218-B
140 Replacement Avenue
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473
573-596-0193

Mississippi, New Madrid, Scott

106 Arthur Drive
Sikeston, MO 63801
573-472-5350

Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Shannon

3415 Division St.
West Plains, MO 65775
417-256-3452

Dunklin, Pemiscot, Stoddard

1100 S. Bypass
Kennett, MO 63857
573-888-9513

Phelps (Rolla)

1101 Kings Highway, Suite A
Rolla, MO 65401
573-368-2373

Butler, Carter, Ripley, Wayne

218 B North Broadway
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-840-9770

Crawford, Dent, Phelps (St. James)

620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559
573-265-7752 ext. #245

Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, Ste. Genevieve

2400 Veterans Memorial Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
573-290-5752

Iron, Madison, Reynolds, St. Francois, Washington

901 Progress Drive, Suite #102
Farmington, MO 63640
573-218-6130

**Veterans
Service
Officers**

MVC St. Louis Region County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Jefferson

10325 Hwy 21, Room 130
Hillsboro, MO 63050
636-797-9624

St. Louis (Veterans Home)

10600 Lewis and Clark Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63136
314-340-6389 Ext # 242

St. Louis County

3256 Laclede Station Rd
Maplewood, MO 63143
314-877-0001 Ext #242

City of St. Louis

VA Regional Office, Room 107
400 South 18th St.
314-552-9885

MVC Southwest Region

County Coverage

Call for hours and alternate locations

Bates, Cedar, St. Clair, Vernon

621 E. Highland Ave
Suite #3
Nevada, MO 64772
417-448-1133

Douglas, Stone, Taney

Taney County Courthouse
132 David St.
Forsyth, MO 65653
417-546-7209

Camden, Dallas, Laclede, Wright

2639 S. Jefferson #2
Lebanon, MO 65536
417-532-6754

Barton, Jasper (Carthage)

Courthouse, Room 203
Carthage, MO 64836
417-359-1515

Jasper (Joplin), McDonald, Newton

730 S. Wall Ave.
Joplin, MO 64801
417-629-3538

Barry, Dade, Lawrence

1600 South Hickory
Mt Vernon, MO 65712
417-466-7103

Christian, Greene, Polk, Webster

1410 S. Kansas Expressway Rm. 115
Springfield, MO 65807
417-895-6532

Veterans Service Officers

Veteran Service Organization Service Officer Locations

Many Veterans Service Organizations have service officers available to assist Veterans in applying for benefits. Contact local veterans service organizations for more information on the availability of their service officers. Veterans Service Organizations also maintain a presence at the VA hospitals and other locations in Missouri. Listed below are those locations and the organizations at that address.

Columbia, MO

VA Medical Center
800 Hospital Drive
Columbia, MO 65201
Phone: (573) 814-6000



Fort Leonard Wood, MO

Building 312, Room 210
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473
Phone: (573) 563-5855



Kansas City, MO

VA Medical Center
4801 Linwood Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64128
Phone: (816) 861-4700



Kansas City, MO

3027 Walnut
Kansas City, MO 64108
Phone: (816) 561-8387



Mt. Vernon, MO

VA Outpatient Clinic
600 N Main
Mount Vernon, MO 65712
Phone: (417) 466-4000



Poplar Bluff, MO

VA Medical Center
1500 N. Westwood Blvd
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Phone: (573) 686-4151



Springfield, MO

911 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65802
Phone: (417) 862-8387



St. Louis, MO - Jefferson Barracks

VA Medical Center
1 Jefferson Barracks Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63125
Phone: 314-652-4100



St. Louis, MO - John Cochran

VA Medical Center
915 North Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63106
Phone: 314-652-4100



St. Louis, MO - VA Regional Office

400 South, 18th Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone: 800-827-1000



St. Louis, MO

6504 Manchester Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63139
Phone: (314) 644-2980



Veterans Benefits Adminis- tration

1-800-827-1000
www.vba.va.gov



In partnership with the Veterans Health Administration and the National Cemetery Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) provides benefits and services to the Veterans and their families in a responsive, timely, and compassionate manner in recognition of their service to the nation.

The St. Louis VA Regional Office (VARO) provides the full range of benefits and services to approximately 569,045 veterans and dependents residing in the State of Missouri.

As one of four Regional Processing Offices (RPO), our Education Division administers all education benefits to veterans, servicepersons and dependents residing in 16 states.

St. Louis VA Regional Office
400 South, 18th Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone: 800-827-1000

Education Benefits

For information on federal education benefits, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551).

VA Home Loan Guaranty Program

The VA Loan Guaranty Service is the organization within the Veterans Benefits Administration, charged with the responsibility of administering the home loan program. Our mission is to help veterans and active duty personnel purchase and retain homes in recognition of their service to the Nation. All veterans and other participants in the program will be treated in a courteous, responsive, and timely manner. We will endeavor to operate in the most efficient manner possible to minimize costs and ensure the best use of the taxpayer's dollar.

Missouri Regional Loan Center

Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Regional Loan Center

1 Federal Drive, Ft. Snelling

St. Paul, MN 55111-4050

1-800-827-0611

<http://www.vba.va.gov/ro/central/stpau/pages/homeloans.html>

Returning Service Members (OEF/OIF/OND)

<http://www.oefoif.va.gov/>

Have you recently returned from military service? If you've served, you've earned benefits. Now is the time to take advantage of the benefits VA offers OEF/OIF Veterans.

Do You Want to Go Back to School?

VA pays benefits to eligible Veterans, reservists and active duty service members while they are in an approved education or training program.

Are You Looking for a Good Job?

Take advantage of the variety of resources that can help you land one.

5 Years of Cost Free Health Care

OEF/OIF combat Veterans can receive cost free medical care for any condition related to their service in the Iraq/Afghanistan theater for five years after the date of their discharge or release.

180 day dental benefit

OEF/OIF combat Veterans may be eligible for one-time dental care — but you must apply with 180 days of your separation date from active duty.

Find Family Support at Vet Centers

If you have served in ANY combat zone, local Vet Centers can help you and your family with readjustment counseling and outreach services — for free.

Federal VA Health Care

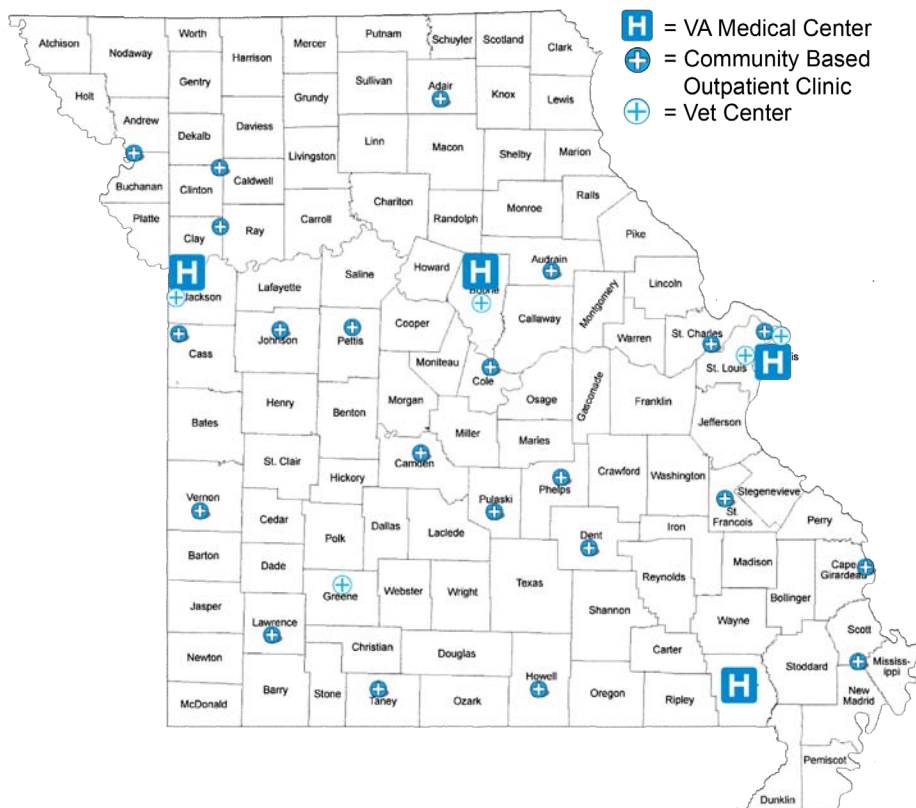
1-877-222-8387
www.va.gov/health

VA provides a Medical Benefits Package to all enrolled Veterans. This comprehensive plan provides a full range of preventive outpatient and inpatient services within VA health care system. Also, once you enroll in the VA's health care system, you can be seen at any VA facility across the country.

VA operates an annual enrollment system that helps to manage the provision of health care by providing an overall population of beneficiaries. Additionally, the enrollment system ensures that Veterans who are eligible can get care and ensures that care is given to Veterans who are eligible. VA applies a variety of factors in determining Veterans' eligibility for enrollment, but once a Veteran is enrolled, that Veteran remains enrolled in the VA health care system.

There are many ways that a Veteran may qualify to receive top-notch VA health care at over 1,400 medical centers and clinics across the nation. The VA has highly trained physicians and clinicians that allow the VA to address many specialties. You may also be able to receive assistance with prescription medication. VA health care is portable. Once enrolled, you may receive care at your home facility as well as the nearest VA facility while traveling.





Missouri VA Medical Centers

Kansas City

Kansas City VA Medical Center
 4801 Linwood Boulevard
 Kansas City, MO 64128
 816-861-4700

Poplar Bluff

John J. Pershing Medical Center
 1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
 Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
 573-686-4151

Columbia

Harry S Truman Memorial
 800 Hospital Drive
 Columbia, MO 65201-5297
 573-814-6000
 800-349-8262

St. Louis

John Cochran Division
 915 North Grand Blvd.
 Saint Louis, MO 63106
 314-652-4100
 800-228-5459

St. Louis

Jefferson Barracks Division
 1 Jefferson Barracks Drive
 Saint Louis, MO 63125
 314-652-4100
 800-228-5459

Federal VA Health Care

1-877-222-8387
www.va.gov/health

Missouri VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC)

Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC) are VA operated medical facilities throughout the state in local communities that offer primary care services to eligible Veterans. A CBOC provides services that may include, but are not limited to: routine physical examinations, immunizations, prescription of medications, on-site laboratory and x-ray services, women's care, referral to specialists and/or the local VA hospital as appropriate, mental health, counseling, and group therapy.

Belton

17140 Bel-Ray Pl.
Belton, MO 64012
816-922-2161

Branson

5571 Gretna Rd
Branson, MO 65616
417-243-2300/866-951-8387

Cameron Veterans Home

1111 Euclid Dr
Cameron, MO 64429
816-922-2500 X 54251

Cape Girardeau

3051 Williams St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
573-339-0909

Excelsior Springs

197 McCleary Rd
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024
816-922-2970

Farmington

1580 W. Columbia St
Farmington, MO 63640
573-760-1365

Jefferson City
2707 W Edgewood
Jefferson City, MO 65109
573-635-0233

Sikeston
905 South Kingshighway
Sikeston, MO 63801
573-472-2139

Kirksville
1501 North Crown Drive
Kirksville, MO 63501
660-627-8387

St. Charles
844 Waterbury Falls Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63368
314-286-6988

Mexico Veterans Home
One Veterans Drive
Mexico, MO 65265
573-581-9630

St. James Veterans Home
620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559
573-265-0448

Mt. Vernon
600 N Main
Mt Vernon, MO 65712
417-466-4000

St. Joseph
1314 North 36th Street, Suite A
St. Joseph, MO 64506
800-952-8387 ext. 56925

Nevada
322 South Prewitt
Nevada, MO 64772
417-448-8905

St. Louis North County
6854 Parker Road
Florissant, MO 63033
800-228-5459 ext. 56988

Osage Beach
940 Executive Drive
Osage Beach, MO 65065
573-302-7890

Warrensburg Veterans Home
1300 Veterans Drive
Warrensburg, MO 64093
816-922-2500 X 54281

Salem
Hwy 72 North
Salem, MO 65560
573-729-6626/888-557-8262

Waynesville
700 GW Lane
Waynesville, MO 65583

Sedalia
3320 West 10th Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
660-826-3800

West Plains
1211 Missouri Ave
West Plains, MO 65775
417-257-2454

Federal VA Health Care

1-877-222-8387
www.va.gov/health

Missouri VA Vet Centers

Vet Centers are run by the VA in more than 200 locations across America, separate from the better-known medical centers. Vet Centers guide Veterans and their families through some of the major adjustments in lifestyle that can occur after combat.

The Vet Centers are designed to help all Veterans, including those newly returned from Iraq and Afghanistan as well as those from Vietnam, Korea and even World War II.

Vet Center services include individual and group counseling in areas such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), alcohol and drug assessment, suicide prevention referrals, bereavement counseling, VA benefits assistance, employment counseling, information on community resources and educational opportunities.

Columbia Vet Center
4040 Rangeline Road
Suite 105
Columbia, MO 65202
Phone: 573-814-6206

Kansas City Vet Center
301 East Armour Blvd
Suite 305
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-753-1866

St. Louis Vet Center
2901 Olive
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-531-5355

St. Louis Vet Center
2122 Kratky Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63114
314-426-5460

Springfield Vet Center
3616 S. Campbell
Springfield, MO 65807
417-881-4197

DAV Transportation Network

Because so many sick and disabled Veterans lack transportation to and from VA medical facilities for needed treatment, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) operates a nationwide Transportation Network to meet this need.

Through the Transportation Network, DAV volunteers drive sick and disabled Veterans to and from VA medical facilities for treatment.

Since the DAV Transportation Network is staffed by volunteers, it is unable to cover every community. Please use the following contacts at Missouri's VA medical centers to see if transportation is available in your area.

Michael T. Elmore

HSC Program Coordinator
413 W. Hickory
Kirksville, MO 63501
Phone: 660-627-0328

John J. Pershing Medical Center

1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
Building 6, Room 1003
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Phone: 573-778-4616

Harry S Truman Medical Center

800 Hospital Drive
Room 540
Columbia, MO 65201
Phone: 573-814-6002

John Cochran Medical Center

915 N. Grand Blvd.
Room A-301
St. Louis, MO 63106
Phone: 314-289-6443

Kansas City VA Medical Center

4801 Linwood Blvd.,
Room M1-569
Kansas City, MO 64128
Phone: 816-922-2884

Jefferson Barracks Medical Center

1 Jefferson Barracks Drive
Building 1, Room C 110
St. Louis, MO 63125
Phone: 314-416-6984

Gene Taylor VA Outpatient Center

600 N. Main, Rm. 242
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712
Phone: 417-466-0179



Veterans Service Organiza- tions

Veterans Service Organizations provide Veterans with benefits and services, camaraderie with fellow Veterans, and opportunities to serve their communities. Many benefits enjoyed by Veterans are a result of the political activity of Veteran Service Organizations. By becoming a member of a service organization, especially if you are willing to be active and speak up on Veterans' issues, you help ensure Veterans are a priority for our elected representatives.

Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations (MAVO)



The Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations, or MAVO, is composed of federally chartered Veterans Organizations. MAVO is an organization that brings together the common interests and concerns of the many organizations to speak with one voice on issues that impact their fellow Veterans. While MAVO is an independent organization, they work closely with the Missouri Veterans Commission.

If you are a member of a federally chartered Veterans Organization and wish to have your organization be a member of MAVO, please contact the Missouri Veterans Commission who will get you in contact with MAVO leadership.

Current Active and Inactive members of MAVO include:



Air Force Association

<http://www.afa.org/>
1-800-727-3337



Air Force Sergeants Association

<http://www.hqafsa.org>
1-800-638-0594



American Ex-Prisoner Of War Association

<http://www.axpow.org/>

1-817-649-2979



American Veterans (AMVETS)

<http://www.amvets.org/>

1-636-248-0450



Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

<http://www.davmo.org/>

1-660-627-0328



Fleet Reserve Association

<http://www.fra.org/>

1-800-372-1924



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

<http://www.jwv.org/>

1-202-265-6280



Korean War Veterans Association

<http://www.kwva.org/>

1-863-859-1384



Marine Corps League

<http://www.mcleague.org/>

1-800-625-1775



Military Officers Association of America

<http://www.moaa.org/>

1-800-234-6622

Veterans Service Organiza- tions



Military Order of the Purple Heart

<http://www.purpleheart.org/>
1-703-642-5360



Military Order of the World Wars

<http://www.militaryorder.net/>
1-877-320-3774



National Association of Atomic Veterans

<http://www.naav.com/>
1-417-627-9577



Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)

<http://www.gatewaypva.org>
1-800-426-4058



Special Forces Association

<http://www.specialforcesassociation.org/>
1-910-485-5433



The American Legion

<http://www.missourilegion.org/>
1-800-846-9023



The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)

<http://www.trea.org/>

1-800-338-9337



United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

<https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

1-877-542-Dive



Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

<http://www.vfwwebcom.org/missouri>

1-888-276-8609



Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

<http://www.vva.org/>

1-800-882-1316



Women's Army Corps Veterans Association

<http://www.armywomen.org/>

1-256-820-6824



St. Louis Service Women's Post 404 (Am. Leg)

<http://www.stlouiswomenvets.org/>

1-636-281-8835

Business Benefits & Services

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

<http://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/>

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit incentive that Congress provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from nine target groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. The main objective of this program is to enable the targeted employees to gradually move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income and become contributing taxpayers, while the participating employers are compensated by being able to reduce their federal income tax liability. WOTC joins other workforce programs that help incentivize workplace diversity and facilitate access to good jobs for American workers.

WOTC Coordinator

Division of Workforce Development

Department of Economic Development

421 East Dunklin Street

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone: 573-522-9581

E-mail: wfdcusto@ded.mo.gov

Web: <http://ded.mo.gov/wfd>

State Contract and Business Preference for Service Connected Disabled Veterans

In bidding for jobs or services with the State of Missouri, preference will be given to disabled Veteran businesses doing business as Missouri firms, corporations, or individuals, or which maintain Missouri offices or places of business, when the quality of performance promised is equal or better and the price quoted is the same or less.

Division of Purchasing & Materials Mgmt.

Phone: 573-751-2387

<http://oa.mo.gov/purch/>

Missouri Linked Deposit Program

The Missouri Linked Deposit Program is a low-interest loan program administered by the State Treasurer's Office and Missouri financial institutions. The financial institutions receive low-interest rate deposits from the State Treasurer for certain eligible programs, and pass on the interest savings to approved borrowers. Since the loans are not guaranteed by the State or grants, borrowers must meet the credit requirements of the lending institution.

Office of Missouri State Treasurer Clint Zweifel
Attn: Missouri Linked Deposit Program
PO Box 210
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: 573-751-2372
E-mail: LinkedDeposit@treasurer.mo.gov
Web: <http://www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.asp>

Professional License Extensions due to Military Service

A person whose job requires licensing or certification by the State of Missouri who is called to active duty in the National Guard or any Reserve Component of the Armed Services will not be required to attend the continuing education or training required to maintain the licensing or certification during the time of active duty. Upon returning from active duty the person will not have to make up or retake any training or education missed during that time.

Waivers for Dissolved Corporations due to Military Service

The Secretary of State will waive reinstatement fees and procedures in the event a corporation was administratively dissolved for failure to file an annual registration report when the failure was due to the business owner's active military service. The Secretary of State will waive all late fees, cancel the certificate of dissolution, and reinstate the corporation in these circumstances. Annual registration report fees may still be due for the years in which no report was filed.

Criminal Background Checks

Law enforcement agencies provide at no cost a criminal background check in connection with gaining employment, housing, or any other service on any homeless former member of the armed forces who has been honorably discharged.

Burial & Cemetery Benefits

Veterans, spouses, and dependent children may be eligible for burial and cemetery benefits by the State of Missouri and the Federal Government.

Families should make these VA and State burial benefits arrangements through their funeral provider as neither the VA nor the State of Missouri make funeral arrangements or perform cremations.

Any item or service not listed below that is obtained from a funeral home will be at the families expense. Please contact a State or National Veterans Cemetery for a full listing of state and federal burial benefits that are provided at no cost.

Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries

The Missouri Veterans Commission created a network of Veterans cemeteries so that every Missouri Veteran will have reasonable access to a Veterans cemetery. Five cemeteries are in operation at this time; Springfield, Higginsville, Bloomfield, Jacksonville and Fort Leonard Wood. A sixth Veterans cemetery is located at the St. James Veterans Home, but is not open for interment.

There is no charge for any of the services provided. These services include opening and closing of the grave, provision of a concrete grave liner, upright granite headstones, full military honors for the Veteran, and perpetual care. Those who choose cremation have the choice of in-ground burial or placement within a columbarium niche. Pre-registration for future planning purposes is also available for Veterans and their eligible family members.



Eligibility

To be eligible for burial in a National or State Veterans Cemetery, the Veteran must have been:

- Discharged from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable.
- Have completed the required period of service as required by law.
- Members of the Reserve or National Guard also qualify for interment if they are eligible for retirement pay as a result of 20 years creditable service.
- There is no residency requirement for interment in a Missouri Veterans Cemetery.
- U.S. Citizens who served in the armed forces of a government allied with the United States during wartime may also be eligible.
- Other criteria may apply. For more information on eligibility go to <http://www.cem.va.gov/bbene/eligible.asp>

Burial & Cemetery Benefits

State Veterans Cemeteries

Bloomfield

17357 Stars & Stripes Way
Bloomfield, MO 63825
573-568-3871

Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Highway H
Waynesville, MO 65583
Phone: 573-774-3496

Higginsville

20109 Business Highway 13
Higginsville, MO 64037
660-584-5252

Jacksonville

1479 County Road 1675
Jacksonville, MO 65260
660-295-4237

St. James (closed to interment)

620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559
573-265-3271

Springfield

5201 South Southwood Road
Springfield, MO 65804
417-823-3944

National Cemeteries

Jefferson Barracks

2900 Sheridan Road
St. Louis, MO 63125
314-845-8320

Jefferson City

1024 East McCarty Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
314-845-8320
(closed to new interments)

Springfield

1702 East Seminole Street
Springfield, MO 65804
417-881-9499
(call for interment availability)

Federal Burial Benefits

Burial in a National or Missouri State Veterans Cemetery

Burial benefits available include a gravesite in a national or state cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Cremated remains are buried or inurned in national and state cemeteries in the same manner and with the same honors as casketed remains.

Burial benefits available for spouses and dependents buried in a national or state cemetery include burial with the Veteran, perpetual care, and the spouse or dependents name and date of birth and death will be inscribed on the Veteran's headstone, at no cost to the family. Eligible spouses and dependents may be buried, even if they predecease the Veteran.

For Burial in a Private Cemetery

Burial benefits available for Veterans buried in a private cemetery include a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Some Veterans may also be eligible for Burial Allowances. There are no federal benefits available to spouses and dependents buried in a private cemetery.

Burial Allowance

In certain circumstances, a Burial Allowance is available from the Veterans Benefits Administration. VA burial allowances are partial reimbursements of an eligible Veteran's burial and funeral costs. Please contact your funeral service provider or a Veterans Service Officer for more information.



Burial & Cemetery Benefits

Military Funeral Honors

What are Military Funeral Honors?

The ceremonial paying of respect and the final demonstration of the country's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our Nation. The military funeral honors ceremony consists of, at a minimum, the folding and presentation of the American flag and the sounding of Taps by a detail of two uniformed members of the Military Services. Missouri Veterans normally receive a Three-Volley Rifle Salute, sounding of Taps, Flag Folding and Presentation. Active duty members and military retirees are entitled to additional honors.

Who can receive Military Funeral Honors?

Deceased Active Duty, Guard and Reserve Members, Military Retirees, and Veterans who served at least one term of enlistment and separated under honorable conditions are eligible for Military Funeral Honors.

Military Funeral Honors will be denied to any person discharged under other than honorable conditions, convicted of a state or federal capital crime, or when circumstances surrounding the person's death are such that to provide honors at the funeral or burial of the person would bring discredit upon the military services.

How do I request Military Funeral Honors and how much will it cost me?

Request Military Funeral Honors through your Funeral Director.

Military Funeral Honors are provided at no cost to you or the Funeral Home.

How do I get a flag for the casket and how much will it cost me?

Request a flag through your Funeral Director.

Flags are provided at no cost to you or the Funeral Home.

What if we do not want Taps?

The family decides whether or not taps are provided.

Who provides Military Funeral Honors?

The family determines who presents the flag and can choose between Uniformed Service Members or a Veterans Service Organization. The Military Funeral Honors Program or Active Component determines who will provide the rest of the team based on availability of teams. Honors may be provided by any combination of Missouri Army and Air National Guard members, Active Duty Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard, Retired Military Members, or Veterans Service Organizations.



Burial & Cemetery Benefits

Flying Flags at Half-Staff

The United States flag and the Missouri state flag are flown at half-staff for the full day of all interment ceremonies for Veterans held in a Missouri State Veterans Cemetery and National Cemeteries.

Unclaimed Veterans Remains

The unclaimed cremated remains of a Veteran may be collected by a Veterans' Service Organization for the purpose of interment if the remains have been in possession of a funeral establishment for at least one year and the funeral establishment has given written notice to the person who is entitled to the remains and that person has not claimed the remains within the specified time frame.

If the address of the person entitled to the remains cannot be reasonably ascertained, notice must be given in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of the Veteran's residence. If the Veteran's residence is unknown, notice must be given in the county where the Veteran died or, if the death location is unknown, in the county in which the funeral establishment is located. If the remains are not claimed within 30 days of the mailing of the written notice or within four months of the date of the first newspaper publication, the remains may be given to a Veterans' Service Organization for interment.

The statute is RSMO 194.360.

Child Custody & Child Support

Child Custody

All court orders regarding child custody or visitation or an ex parte order of protection issued or modified while either party is in active military service and deployed out-of-state are to be temporary in nature unless the party in active service knowingly and voluntarily signs a waiver to the right to have the hearing upon his or her return. Upon return from deployment, the party will be given an opportunity to be heard on the child custody and visitation order or the order of protection before a permanent order is entered.

Child Support

After reading the following, should you have additional questions, please contact the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) office to which your case is assigned, or the CSE Customer Relations Unit at 1-800-859-7999.

Review and Modification

If you experience a change in your income as a result of being called to active duty, you may request that CSE modify your child support .

A custodial parent or noncustodial parent who has been called to active duty for a period of more than 30 days may request a review and modification due to an income change. The income change is considered a substantial change in circumstances for purposes of review and modification. That means CSE will complete a review of the order regardless of the age of the order and complete a modification regardless of whether the new amount differs by 20 percent from the existing obligation.

Child Custody & Child Support

Child Support

If you request a review of your order and a modification, please include a copy of your latest leave and earning statement, and a copy of your orders to appear for active duty.

Send your written request and documentation to the CSE office that handles your case.

Income Withholding

If you have experienced a change in your income and have an obligation to repay past-due support, you may request that CSE adjust your past-due payment amount.

To request a change in your periodic past-due payment amount, send a written request, along with your latest leave and earning statement and orders to appear for active duty to the CSE office that handles your case. If appropriate, we will revise the amount being withheld to repay past-due support.

Medical Support

If you are ordered to provide health care coverage for your child(ren) and have not done so, CSE will ask the military to enroll the child(ren) in the appropriate health care plan.

Education Benefits for Veterans, Spouses, & Depen- dents

Federal Education Benefits

For more information on any of the following federal education benefits, contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-GIBILL-1 (1-888-442-4551). You can also check with the Financial Aid Office at your school or a Veterans Service Officer.

The Montgomery GI Bill

The Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) is available for those who enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. MGIB encompasses both the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty (Chapter 30) and The Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606).

The Post-9/11 GI Bill

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

This program makes certain reservists who were activated for at least 90 days after September 11, 2001 either eligible for education benefits or eligible for increased benefits.

Survivors & Dependents Assistance (DEA)

Dependents' Educational Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain Veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. If you are a spouse, you may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

**Education
Benefits
for
Veterans,
Spouses,
&
Depen-
dents**

Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE)

Veterans Education & Training

www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/veterans_ed_index.htm

Phone: 573-751-3487

DESE oversees a variety of Veterans Education programs for the State of Missouri and the VA. DESE is the Missouri State Approving Agency (MSAA) for institutions to provide services to persons eligible for Veterans' Education and Training and Vocational Rehabilitation.

Veterans Education News & Updates

The Veterans Education and Training Section has monthly newsletter for Missouri and Iowa Veterans and the educational community.

http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/veterans_ed_index.htm

Licensure and Certification Test Benefits

VA benefits are paid for licensing and certification tests at MSAA approved institutions. Veterans and eligible persons may call the VA to determine entitlement by calling toll free at: 1-888-442-4551.

Troops to Teachers

The Troops to Teachers (TTT) program seeks to place retiring military personnel and other eligible persons in second careers as public school teachers in elementary, secondary, career and technical, or special education schools.

Eligibility: Educational and Service eligibility requirements for Referral and Placement Assistance services and Financial Assistance are available on the TTT home page at www.ProudToServeAgain.com.

A+ Schools Program

A student who is an active-duty military dependent is exempt from the three-year attendance requirement for the A+ Schools Program. In addition, a dependent of a retired military member who relocates to Missouri within one year of the date of his or her parent's retirement from active duty is be exempt from the attendance requirement.

Operation Recognition

The Missouri legislature created Operation Recognition in order to provide honorary high school diplomas for Veterans and civilian prisoner of war (POWs) who left high school before graduation to serve in the military.

Eligibility: All civilian POWs who are residents or former residents of the state of Missouri and all honorably discharged Veterans who are residents or former residents of the state of Missouri who served in the United States military and who did not return to school and complete their education after their term of service shall be eligible to receive an honorary diploma. Family members may apply for the honorary diploma on behalf of a deceased Veteran.

Candidates must submit an application to the Missouri Veterans Commission. Application form is available from the commission, Veterans' organizations and local school officials.

<http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/docs/services/honoraryhstdiploma.pdf>

Applicants must submit a copy of their military discharge papers or DD-214 along with the application.



Education Benefits for Veterans, Spouses, & Depen- dents

Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS)

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

<http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual/section4/ch25/sec4ch25sub7.htm>

Children of families in the military often face educational barriers due to their parents' deployment or frequent moves. The educational records and enrollment procedures for children of military families transferring to/from Missouri fall under the guidelines of the Interstate Compact, Section 160.2000 RSMo.

Interstate Compact allows a military dependent who has completed an accredited prekindergarten program or completed or attended a kindergarten program in another state to enter kindergarten or first grade even if the child has not reached the required age for Missouri schools by August 1, 2008. It also allows school districts to accept a course in government completed in another state when a student transfers to a Missouri high school in ninth to twelfth grade to satisfy the state's graduation requirement.



Missouri Department of Higher Education (DHE)

Missouri Returning Heroes' Education Act

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/files/moretheroessact.pdf>

This act limits the tuition to no more than \$50 per credit hour at public colleges and universities while enrolled in an undergraduate certificate or degree program after all other financial aid is taken into account.

Eligibility: Applicable to combat Veterans who served after September 11, 2001. Veteran remains eligible for ten years after honorable discharge.

Vietnam Veteran Survivor Grant Program

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/vietnamveterans.shtml>

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/files/vietnamveterans.pdf>

Up to 12 grants are available annually to children and spouses of Vietnam Veterans who served between 1961 and 1972 and whose deaths were attributed to, or caused by, exposure to toxic chemicals during the Vietnam conflict. The Veteran must have been a Missouri resident when first entering the military service and at the time of death.

Eligibility: To be eligible as an initial or renewal student, you must:

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full time (12 credit hours) undergraduate student at a participating Missouri postsecondary school. Students with disabilities may be considered full-time when enrolled in at least six credit hours.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the school.
- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Not be pursuing a degree or certificate in theology or divinity.
- Not have received a bachelor's degree, completed 150 semester credit hours, or received the award for 10 semesters, whichever occurs first.

If you are a dependent child, you will remain eligible through the semester in which you turn 25 if you have not already reached the limitations described and if you are a spouse, you will remain eligible through the semester in which the fifth anniversary of the Veteran's death occurs if you have not already reached the limitations described.

Education Benefits for Veterans, Spouses, & Depen- dents

War Veteran's Survivor Grant Program

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/wartimevetsurvivor.htm>

The War Veteran's Survivors Grant Program provides for the spouse and children of a Missouri soldier who was killed while serving in action, or became 80 percent disabled from an injury sustained in action after September 11, 2001, to receive a grant to attend a public college or university in Missouri. Children are eligible to receive scholarships until age 25. There is no age limit for an eligible spouse.

Injured and Dependent Scholarships

Allows the spouse and children of a Service Member who was killed in action after September 11, 2001, or who became 80% disabled as the result of an injury sustained in combat action after September 11, 2001, to receive an educational grant for tuition at a public or private college or university in Missouri. The Coordinating Board of Higher Education will award up to 25 grants annually.

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/>

Higher Education Tuition Refunds when Called to Active Duty

Students at public higher education institutions who are members of the armed forces reserves and are called to active service under certain circumstances are eligible for tuition refunds or for a grade of "incomplete." Students who are members of the National Guard are similarly eligible for the refunds or grade.

In-State Tuition Eligibility for Military Dependents

A dependent of an active duty military member, as defined in federal law, who is residing in Missouri and whose parent is assigned to permanent duty in the state is eligible for in-state tuition as long as he or she is continuously enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program of a Missouri higher education institution including any transfers from one Missouri institution to another or from an undergraduate to a graduate degree program.

Bright Flight Scholarship Status when Called to Active Duty

If a Bright Flight Scholarship recipient cannot attend an approved institution because of military service in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, the student will be offered the scholarship if he or she returns to full-time status within six months after ending the military service and verifying to the Coordinating Board of Higher Education that the service was satisfactorily completed



Employment Assistance & Benefits

Local Veterans Employment Representatives & Disabled Veterans Outreach Program

Phone: 1-573-526-9762

<http://www.missouricareersource.com>

Division of Workforce Development has staff throughout the state to specifically assist Veterans. Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVER) facilitate or provide assistance in job placement, accessing needed services, and advocate for Veterans by developing employment opportunities with businesses. Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program specialists provide case management and develop career and job training opportunities for Veterans, with special emphasis on Veterans with service-connected disabilities

Services Provided:

- Counseling through case management
- Job Development
- Testing
- Transitional assistance to separating service members
- Identification of employment and training opportunities and direct referrals to jobs
- Monitoring job listings from federal contractors to ensure eligible Veterans get priority referrals
- Monitoring Missouri Career Centers to ensure priority of service to Veterans
- Monitoring federal department and agency vacancy listings
- Referral screening of complaints from Veterans regarding observance of Veteran's preference in federal hiring to the Director of Employment and Training Service.

Hero At Home Program

Phone: 1-800-728-JOBS

<https://worksmart.ded.mo.gov/documents/>

The Hero At Home Program assists the spouse of an active duty National Guard or Reserve component service member to address immediate needs and employment in an attempt to keep the family from falling into poverty while the primary income earner is on active duty and during the one-year period following discharge from deployment. The program also assists returning National Guard Troops or Reserve component service member reservists with finding work in situations where an individual needs to rebuild business clientele or where an individual's job has been eliminated while such individual was deployed, or where the individual otherwise cannot return to his or her previous employment.

Show Me Heroes Program

<https://showmeheroes.mo.gov>

email: ShowMeHeroes@ded.mo.gov

Phone: 1-800-592-6020

The 'Show-Me Heroes' initiative showcases Missouri businesses that are willing to hire Veterans returning from the world's battlefields. Veterans and members of our National Guard and Reserve possess the degree of training, education, motivation, and character that will prove vital to Missouri's economic future.

Show Me Heroes list the names of every employer who has signed the pledge to hire a Missouri Veteran, and allows Veterans to see the employers in their region who have taken the pledge. In addition, using Missouri Career Source, Veterans will be able to post their resume and employers will be able to connect with Veterans looking for a job.



Employ- ment Assistance & Benefits

Veterans Employment & Training Services

<http://www.dol.gov/vets/>

Provides Veterans and transitioning service members with the resources and services to succeed in the workforce by maximizing their employment opportunities, protecting their employment rights and meeting labor-market demands with qualified Veterans.

Missouri Department of Labor & Industrial Relations
421 E. Dunklin St.

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone: 573-751-4091

www.labor.mo.gov

On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship

A Veteran, National Guard member, selected reservist or an eligible dependent of a Veteran may be eligible to receive a monthly educational benefit from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) is training received while performing a job and earning wages. Approvable OJT programs must be at least six months and up to two years in length.

Apprenticeship Training is on-the-job training, with 144 hours (minimum) per year of related technical instruction. You receive your GI Bill benefit while working full time and earning wages.

Veterans can contact the Veterans Affairs office at (888) 442-4551 to determine eligibility.

Employers seeking approval of a training program can call (573) 751-3487.

If you do not have a job or if you are not working in the occupation you want, contact your local Missouri Career Center at 1-888-728-5627.

Unemployment Compensation for War on Terror Veterans

<https://www.ui.labor.mo.gov/som/>

A war on terror Veteran may be entitled to a weekly benefit for 26 weeks with the dollar amount based on eight percent of the highest wages paid to the Veteran in the five calendar quarters prior to deployment. The maximum benefit amount a Veteran can receive is \$1,153.64.

Unemployment Compensation for Military Spouses

<https://www.ui.labor.mo.gov/som/>

Individuals who quit work to relocate due to their spouses' military change of station (i.e., trailing military spouses) to be potentially eligible for unemployment benefits. If a trailing military spouse quits work to relocate to a residence from which it is impractical to commute to the workplace and remains employed as long as reasonable prior to the move, he or she may be eligible for unemployment benefits, so long as he or she meets other unemployment eligibility criteria

Courtesy Professional Licenses for Non-Resident Military Spouses

Any state agency or board that regulates an occupation or profession must establish criteria for the issuance of a temporary courtesy license to a nonresident spouse of an active duty member of the military who has been transferred to Missouri allowing the spouse to lawfully practice his or her occupation or profession in this state provided certain qualifications are met.

The regulating statute (RsMO 324.008) and necessary qualifications can be found at: <http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/chapters/chap324.htm>

Information on state regulated occupations or professions can be obtained by contacting the Missouri Division of Professional Registration at:

3605 Missouri Boulevard
P.O. Box 1335
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1335
573-751-0293 Telephone
800-735-2966 TTY
800-735-2466 Voice Relay
profreg@pr.mo.gov
<http://pr.mo.gov/>

Employ- ment Assistance & Benefits

Veterans' Preference with State of Missouri Employment

Missouri Veterans receive five-point preference when testing for any position with the state, with a ten point preference for a service-connected disabled Veteran. Spouses of eligible Veterans can also qualify for Veterans Preference for State testing.

Priority for Qualified Veterans Employment

State agencies which administer federally funded employment and training programs for Veterans shall give priority to qualified Veterans and other eligible persons.

Missouri State Employees Retirement System (MOSERS)

<http://www.mosers.org>

http://www.mosers.org/assets/pdfs/military_leave.pdf

Phone: 1-800-827-1063

Several benefits are provide to state employees who are Veterans or are deployed. Veterans may be eligible to purchase up to four years of active duty military service credit performed prior to your last becoming a member of MOSERS. This includes active duty military training. If you elect to purchase your active duty military service, you must purchase all that you served (total months and days) up to a maximum of four years.

State employees who are called to active duty may receive credit for active duty military service. They can also continue to have life insurance coverage for one year and long-term disability coverage for one year provided they continue to pay for the coverage.

Financial Assistance & Benefits

Missouri Military Family Relief Fund (MMFRF)

The Missouri Military Family Relief Fund is a state-administered fund which assists families of persons who are members of the Missouri National Guard or Missouri residents who are members of the Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States and have been called to active duty as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Applicants can receive a grant up to \$3000.00 based on the recommendation of a review panel.

Eligibility: Missouri National Guard or a Missouri resident Reserve Component member; hold rank no higher than O-3 or W-2; have been on Title 10 or Title 32 orders as a result of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks for 30 consecutive days or more; have been off Title 10 or Title 32 orders as a result of September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks for 24 months or less; have not received a previous grant from this fund within the last 12 months; not have a situation that requires a monetary resolution in less than a week.

To apply for assistance:

<http://www.mmfrf.mo.gov/>

Email: MilitaryRelief@mo.ngb.army.mil

If you wish to make a donation to MMFRF:

Missouri Military Family Relief Fund

JFMO-J1/DPP-F

2302 Militia Drive

Jefferson City, MO 65101

573-638-9827

Financial Assistance & Benefits

Missouri Universal Service Fund

<https://www.missouriusf.com/>

Phone: 573-634-1319

email: mousf@centralbank.net

The Missouri Universal Service Fund was established to help low-income and disabled Missourians receive additional discounts for basic local telephone service. You may qualify for a discount on your monthly telephone bill if you are receiving low income or disability benefits under certain programs.

Low Income Assistance provides discounts up to \$13.50 per month depending on your local phone company.

Disabled Assistance provides discounts up to \$3.50 per month depending on your local phone company.

Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program

<http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/weatherization/wx.htm>

Phone: 1-800-361-4827

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of Energy administers federal funds to 16 regional Community Action Agencies, one city government and one not-for-profit organization. Allocations to these agencies are based on the percentage of the state's total low-income households within each service area.

The agencies provide weatherization services to eligible clients, as well as training and guidance.

To apply for assistance, clients should contact their local weatherization agency.

Financial Assistance & Benefits

Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS)

Phone: 1-573-751-4815

<http://www.dss.mo.gov>

The Department of Social Services is responsible for coordinating programs to provide public assistance to children and their parents, access to health care, child support enforcement assistance and to provide specialized assistance to troubled youth. While many programs give needed financial assistance and services, other units work toward reducing financial dependency of the citizens on government.

Some of the many assistance programs include:

- Child Care Assistance
- Food Stamps
- Home and Community Based Programs
- Low Income Energy Assistance Program
- Mo HealthNet
- MoRx
- Nursing Care
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families



Financial Assistance & Benefits

Missouri Association for Community Action

Phone: 1-573-634-2969

<http://www.communityaction.org>

The Missouri Association for Community Action is a statewide association of 19 community action agencies.

Community action agencies provide critical services to families and communities. They assist with childcare so parents can obtain education to improve their job opportunities, find solutions to transportation obstacles so people can get to work, weatherize homes to reduce energy costs, help families save to buy homes of their own, and help families work their way to self-sufficiency.

Contact the number or website above to locate the nearest Community Action Agency to your location.

State Health Care Benefits

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS)

<http://www.health.mo.gov>

Phone: 573-751-6400

DHSS provides information, services, and protections for Missouri citizens. Key services provided to Veterans and Military include:

Adult Head Injury Program

<http://health.mo.gov/living/families/shcn/ahi.php>

Email: info@dhss.mo.gov

Phone: 800-451-0669

The Adult Head Injury Program provides assistance to Missouri residents, individuals and families in locating, coordinating, and purchasing rehabilitation and psychological services for adults who have survived a traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Individuals must be a Missouri resident between the ages of 21 and 65. Service coordination is available to adult survivors of TBI regardless of financial status. Rehabilitation services are available to individuals who are eligible for the service and whose income is at or below 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Long Term Care Ombudsman

<http://health.mo.gov/seniors/ombudsman/>

Email: LTCOmbudsman@health.mo.gov

Phone: 1-800-309-3282

The Long Term Care Ombudsman program consists of volunteers serving residents of nursing homes and residential care facilities to provide support and assistance with any problems or complaints. They also work to connect Veterans or spouses of deceased Veterans who reside in nursing homes or residential care facilities with a Veterans Service Officer to obtain VA benefits.

State Health Care Benefits

Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH)

<http://dmh.mo.gov/>

Phone: 1-800-364-9687

DMH provides information, services, and protections for Missouri citizens. Key services DMH provides to Veterans and the Military through various partnerships include:

HERO (Housing, Employment, Recovery, Opportunities)

The HERO Program is a collaboration with the St. Patrick Center in St. Louis to provide transitional housing for Homeless Veterans with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues in the St. Louis area. Participating Veterans receive housing, employment assistance and support services to help move them toward permanent housing within two years.

Eligibility: Participating Veterans must be homeless, have a mental illness and/or substance abuse issue, have a discharge status from the U.S. military that is anything other than dishonorable and be approved by the Veterans Administration.

St. Patrick Center
800 North Tucker Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63101
<http://www.stpatrickcenter.org>
Phone: 1-314-802-0700

Division of Alcohol & Drug Abuse National Guard Initiative

<http://dmh.mo.gov/ada/adaindex.htm>
DMH Phone: 1-573-751-8133
National Guard Phone: 1-573-418-6708

The Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse works with the Missouri National Guard to offer substance abuse consultation and evaluations, assessments, and treatment services at no cost to Missouri National Guard Soldiers.

Suicide Prevention Hotline

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

1-800-273-TALK

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/Veterans/Default.aspx>

The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has founded a national suicide prevention hotline to ensure veterans in emotional crisis have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. To operate the Veterans Hotline, the VA partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Veterans can call the Lifeline number, 1-800-273-TALK (8255), and press "1" to be routed to the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline.



Missouri Veterans Homes

1-573-751-3779

[www.mvc.dps.
mo.gov/homes](http://www.mvc.dps.mo.gov/homes)

The Missouri Veterans Commission Homes Program operates seven exemplary Veterans Homes whose mission is to ‘honor and serve the Veterans whose dedication and sacrifice have preserved our nation and its freedoms’.

The Missouri Veterans Homes operates a total of 1,350 beds that provide long term skilled nursing care in compliance with 158 Federal Department of Veterans Affairs regulations. The Homes are located in Cameron, Cape Girardeau, Mexico, Mount Vernon, St. James, St. Louis, and Warrensburg.

Each Missouri Veterans Home employs a licensed nursing home administrator, has registered nurses on duty 24 hours per day, and provides physician care; physical, speech, occupational and recreational therapy; medications; cosmetology; maintenance, environmental and social services, and dietary specialists. Each home has a secured dementia unit that includes a dining room, activity area and enclosed courtyard.

The monthly resident charge is calculated using a sliding scale based on the Veteran’s ability to pay.

To be eligible for admission to a Missouri Veterans Home (RSMo Chapter 42), a Veteran during his or her lifetime must have lived in Missouri for 180 days, meet the criteria for Veteran status established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and require skilled nursing services. Eligibility and admission decisions are made by a team comprised of the Administrator, Physician, Director of Nursing, Social Worker, Veterans Service Officer, and other professionals as needed.



Cameron

1111 Euclid
Cameron, MO 64429
816-632-6010

Cape Girardeau

2400 Veterans Memorial Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
573-290-5870

Mexico

#1 Veterans Drive
Mexico, MO 65265
573-581-1088

Mt. Vernon

1600 S. Hickory
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712
417-466-7103

St. James

620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559
573-265-3271

St. Louis

10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63136
314-340-6389

Warrensburg

1300 Veterans Road
Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-543-5064

Homeless Veterans Benefits

Missouri VA Homeless Veteran Program Coordinators

Every VA Medical Center in Missouri has a Homeless Veterans Coordinator. The Homeless Coordinator can give you information about the services for homeless Veterans provided through the Veterans Health Administration. Services include outreach, case management, referrals to benefits counselors, linkage to health care, and housing assistance. Each facility is unique and services vary among each medical center.

Homeless Veterans in need of assistance after hours when the Homeless Coordinator is unavailable, should contact the VA medical center's emergency room. All VA medical centers can provide referrals to emergency shelter services.

Columbia - Truman Medical Center

800 Hospital Drive
Columbia, MO 65201-5297
573-814-6000
800-349-8262

Kansas City - KC VA Medical Center

4801 Linwood Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64128
816-861-4700

Poplar Bluff - Pershing Medical Center

1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-686-4151

St. Louis - John Cochran Medical Center

915 North Grand Blvd.
Saint Louis, MO 63106
314-652-4100
800-228-5459

St. Louis - Jefferson Barracks Medical Center

1 Jefferson Barracks Drive
Saint Louis, MO 63125
314-652-4100
800-228-5459

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans

<http://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/NationalCallCenter.asp>

Phone: 1-877-4AID VET (877-424-3838)

VA has founded a National Call Center for Homeless Veterans to ensure that homeless Veterans or Veterans at-risk for homelessness have free, 24/7 access to trained counselors. The hotline is intended to assist homeless Veterans and their families, VA Medical Centers, federal, state and local partners, community agencies, service providers and others in the community.

Missouri Substitute Addresses for Homeless Veterans

<http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/c000-099/0420000035.htm>

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, a homeless Veteran may use a charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans organization as a substitute mailing address to receive state or federal assistance if the organizations meet the following:

- The purpose of the organizations is to provide charitable, religious, fraternal, or Veterans services
- The organizations have been providing these services for more than 10 years
- The organizations are willing to be the substitute address for the homeless Veteran.

No-Cost Criminal Background Checks for Homeless Veterans

Law enforcement agencies provide at no cost a criminal background check in connection with gaining employment, housing, or any other service on any homeless former member of the armed forces who has been honorably discharged.

Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Program

A Veteran who is incarcerated may not be aware of the services and programs that the VA and the Missouri Veterans Commission can provide or coordinate prior to and after leaving prison.

Incarcerated Veterans nearing release in three to six months can be referred to a Veterans Service Officer in the community where they will be living who will be able to assist them with their VA benefits.

The Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Program (IVREP) assists incarcerated Veterans and their families with information and assistance on VA benefits, transitioning back into the community, and works with incarcerated Veterans to reduce the number of VA overpayments while incarcerated.

The IVREP works by linking qualified Veterans with the appropriate services. The goal of the IVREP is to assist you in the successful transition back to a productive and healthy lifestyle among your community and family.

P.L. Nordin
Incarcerated Veterans Re-Entry Coordinator
Veterans Service Officer
P.O. Box 1298 Lebanon, MO. 65536
www.mvc.dps.mo.gov

Licensing:

Driver & Motor Vehicle

Dept. of

Revenue

<http://dor.mo.gov>
573-751-4450

Dept. of Revenue Military Liaison

<http://dor.mo.gov/pdf/milrefguide.pdf>

The Missouri Department of Revenue has designated a "Military Liaison" to assist military personnel with questions about Missouri income tax, driver licenses, motor vehicle registrations, and other issues. Please call (573) 751-3622 and ask for the Department's Military Liaison, or e-mail the Department at military@dor.mo.gov. You may also obtain information about motor vehicle and driver license from the Department by contacting:

Driver License Bureau
PO Box 200
Jefferson City, MO 65105-0200
Telephone: (573) 751-2730
Fax: (573) 522-8174

Motor Vehicle Bureau
PO Box 100
Jefferson City, MO 65105-0100
Telephone: (573) 526-3669
Fax: (573) 751-0789

Driver Documents

Driver License Suspensions & Revocations to be Stayed

Missouri has a special process that allows for driver license suspensions and revocations to be stayed in certain cases for members of the armed forces performing such military service. The suspensions and revocations will remain in a stayed status until sixty days after the military service ends. More information regarding how to get your license reinstated or to find out what is on your driver record is available 24 hours, 7 days a week at (573) 526-2407. You may also access the Missouri Driver Guide on-line at <http://dor.mo.gov/mvdl/drivers/dlguide/>

**Licensing:
Driver
&
Motor
Vehicle

Dept.
of
Revenue**
<http://dor.mo.gov>
573-751-4450

Renewal of Driver Documents

Missouri allows for an early renewal of driver licenses, permits, or non-driver licenses documents for persons leaving the state or country. An applicant can apply for early renewal at a local license office prior to leaving to ensure the document does not expire while deployed.

Missouri allows renewal by mail for members of the armed forces and their dependents. Applicants should submit renewal form DOR-4317 (available on-line at www.dor.mo.gov, or faxed upon request), along with required documents and fees.

Any Missouri resident upon active duty discharge from the military will have 90 days after re-establishment of residence within the state or 6 months from the date of discharge, whichever is sooner, to renew an expired driver's license without taking the full examination. The expired license is not valid for driving.

When you obtain or renew any license, permit, or nondriver license, you will be required to show verification of name, date of birth, place of birth, Social Security Number, and Missouri residential address, as required by Missouri law.

Commercial Driver License

Missouri allows active duty military or retired military personnel to complete an application for waiver of skills testing to obtain a commercial driver license. Applicant must have a minimum of 60 days active duty driving experience in a commercial motor vehicle for the military (not vehicle training) within the 2 years prior to date of application for waiver. Applicants must still complete the required knowledge examinations for the commercial driver license class being applied for. The Military Skills Test Waiver Application DOR-5140 is available on-line at: <http://dor.mo.gov/mvdl/drivers/forms/> or may be faxed upon request or acquired at a local license office.

Vehicle Documents

Vehicle Registration Renewal and Required Documents

Military applicants may renew an expired motor vehicle registration up to 60 days after completion of military service without a \$5 renewal penalty. The vehicle may not be operated during the period the registration is expired. With each transaction the applicant must submit official orders from the appropriate military authority as evidence of military service and the date of discharge.

Titling and Inspections

Military applicants may authorize another individual to sign the General Affidavit (DOR-768) indicating the vehicle is out-of-state and will be inspected within ten (10) days of returning to Missouri, if applicable. A power of attorney or a statement from the military applicant allowing the signature is not required.

Military applicants are allowed 180 days from completion of military service before a title penalty is assessed on the purchase of a motor vehicle, trailer, boat, outboard motor, all terrain vehicle, or manufactured home. Military applicants may have a commissioned officer or other out-of-state law enforcement officer sign an inspection form to verify the vehicle identification number (VIN) and odometer reading of a vehicle previously titled out of state (ID/OD inspection).

Extensions

Any person engaged in the performance of active duty in a United States military conflict for 30 days or more, will receive an extension for complying with certain motor vehicle laws. Qualified military service includes:

- A member of the National Guard or National Guard Reserve;
- A member of the United States Armed Forces or Reserve (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marines); and
- An officer of the United States Public Health Service detailed by proper authority for duty with any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

Active duty military personnel who sell a vehicle and are deployed before a new vehicle can be purchased are allowed an extension of 180 days after return to purchase a vehicle and obtain the tax allowance. A copy of their military orders of completion of deployment must be submitted. This extension also applies to “total loss” vehicle tax credits.

Licensing: Driver & Motor Vehicle

Dept.
of

Revenue
<http://dor.mo.gov>
573-751-4450

Specialty Plates

dor.mo.gov/mvdl/motorv/plates

Missouri has over 30 different types of military and veteran personalized license plates available to qualified individuals. To preview these specialty plates or read the requirements to obtain them, visit the Missouri Department of Revenue at the above website. Examples include, but are not limited to: Air Force, Navy, Operation Enduring Freedom, National Guard, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Civil Air Patrol, Army, Purple Heart, Some Gave All, U.S. Veteran, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Legion of Merit.

Any surviving spouse of an individual who would have been eligible to obtain a United States Armed Forces, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, Reserves, Missouri National Guard, or United States Marine Corps League special license plate may obtain the plate as long as the spouse does not remarry.

Certification Renewal Exemption for Disabled Plates & Placards.

A person who presents proof of permanent disability from the United States Veterans Administration is exempt from the four-year certification requirement for renewal of disabled license plates or placards. Initial applications must include a physician's statement confirming the individual's disability.

Property Tax Receipt Waiver for Out of State Military

Military applicants who did not receive their renewal notice and are stationed outside of the state of Missouri are eligible for waiver of their property tax receipt verification requirement if the applicant provides a Leave and Earnings Statement which does NOT indicate Missouri as his or her home of record.

Free Parking for Certain Veterans

Upon the approval of a local authority's governing body, a Veteran displaying a Congressional Medal of Honor, Prisoner of War, Silver Star, or Purple Heart specialty license plate may park his or her motor vehicle without charge in a metered parking space within the authority's jurisdiction if it is less than 6,000 pounds gross weight. A Veteran who has been awarded the Bronze Star may apply to the Director of the Department of Revenue for a windshield placard which will allow him or her to also park without charge in a metered parking space if the placard is hung from the front, middle rearview mirror or displayed on the dashboard on the driver's side if there is no rearview mirror. Certain vehicle and parking restrictions are specified.

Liability Insurance Discontinuation

Active duty military applicants may discontinue liability insurance on a vehicle with an otherwise valid registration, provided that the vehicle is not being operated.



Licensing: Sporting

Dept. of Conservation

www.mdc.mo.gov
573-522-4115

Free Fishing License for Disabled Missouri Veterans

<http://www.mdc.mo.gov/regs/permits>

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may take fish, live bait, clams, mussels, turtles, and frogs as provided in Chapter 6 without permit (except trout permit or daily tag in areas where prescribed), provided, while fishing, s/he carries a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Free Hunting License for Disabled Missouri Veterans

<http://www.mdc.mo.gov/regs/permits>

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may take wildlife as provided in Chapter 7 without permit (except deer and turkey hunting permits and the Migratory Bird Hunting Permit and Conservation Order Permit as prescribed); provided, while hunting, s/he carries a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Resident Permit privileges for Permanent Change of Station

All members of the United States armed forces stationed and residing in Missouri on permanent change of station status, and their immediate families residing with them, may receive resident permit privileges.

Resident Permit Eligibility for Out of State Disabled Veterans

Any honorably discharged military Veteran having a service-related disability of sixty percent (60%) or greater, or who was a prisoner of war during military service, may purchase resident permits; provided, while purchasing and exercising permit privileges such person must carry a certified statement of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Guard and Reserve Small Game Hunting & Fishing Permit

<http://www.mdc.mo.gov/regs/permits.htm>

For residents of Missouri who are currently, or have in the previous twelve (12) months, been mobilized and serving on full-time active military duty in either the National Guard (in Federal Status) or Reserve forces of the United States to chase, pursue, take, possess and transport fish, frogs, mussels, clams, turtles, crayfish, live bait, birds (except wild turkey) and mammals (except deer), and to sell furbearers taken by hunting.
Fee: five dollars (\$5).



Medals & Military Records

Missouri Veteran Awards Program

<http://www.moguard.com/Veterans/VeteranAwards.aspx>

The Veterans Awards Program provides a medal, medallion, and certificate to Missouri residents who served in the following conflicts: World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. World War II Veterans who participated in the D-Day Invasion of Europe are also eligible to receive a replica of the Jubilee of Liberty medal.

Veterans, spouses of Veterans, or the eldest living survivor of Veterans who meet the requirements can apply.

Office of the Adjutant General
Veterans Awards
P.O. Box 1808
2302 Militia Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: (573) 638-9561

Replacement of Medals

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the Veteran served. A Veterans Service Officer can assist in filing for replacement medals or awards.

Stolen Valor Act

The Stolen Valor Act of 2007 is established which makes it unlawful for any person to knowingly misrepresent himself or herself as a Veteran or a medal recipient. Any violation of this provision will be a class A misdemeanor for the first offense and a class D felony for any subsequent offense. If certain decorations or medals are involved in the offense, it will be a class C or class D felony.

Military Records Request

<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/>

<http://vetrecs.archives.gov>

The National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records (NPRC-MPR) is the repository of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased Veterans of all services during the 20th century. NPRC-MPR also stores medical treatment records of retirees from all services, as well as records for dependent and other persons treated at naval medical facilities. Information from the records is made available upon written request (with signature and date) to the extent allowed by law.

If you are a Veteran or next-of-kin of a deceased Veteran, you may now use vetrecs.archives.gov to order a copy of your military records. For all others, your request is best made using a Standard Form 180(available on website). It includes complete instructions for preparing and submitting requests. Please Note: All requests must be in writing, signed and mailed to the address shown below.

National Personnel Records Center

Military Personnel Records

9700 Page Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Missouri National Guard Archive

<http://www.moguard.com/archives.php>

The Missouri National Guard Archives receive and maintain official military files on all Missouri National Guard retired or discharged Soldiers/Airmen and Certificates of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) for Missouri Veterans from all branches of service that designated Missouri as their home of record at the time of discharge from military service from 1942 to present date.

State Military Records Archive

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/military.asp>

The archives holds many military records of Missourians who served in domestic and foreign wars between 1812 and World War I. These records consist of individual service cards, payrolls, muster and descriptive rolls, reports, orders, and reparation claims.

Memorials & Military Museum

Highway Naming

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/HighwayNaming>

Under certain conditions, and within specific guidelines, Missouri highways and bridges can be named after individuals (deceased 2 years) or events. Go to the MoDOT website for directions, forms and applications needed to begin the process, which must be approved and voted upon by the Missouri Legislature. The current fee for two signs is \$2,200 due with submission of the application.

Heroes Way Interchange Program

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/HighwayNaming.htm>

This program allows for interstate and state-numbered highway interchanges to be designated for Missouri residents who were in the armed forces and had been killed in action on or after September 11, 2001 in either Afghanistan or Iraq while serving the military. The memorial signs will be installed within the interchange on the right side of the highway, one sign per each travel direction. The current fee for two signs is \$2,200 due with submission of the application.

Missouri Veterans History Project

<http://www.mvhp.net>
info@MVHP.net

As a testimony to the state's rich contribution to America's freedom, Missouri has over 500,000 military Veterans living in the state today. Each has an experience and a story to tell that can benefit us all. However, each day more of our military Veterans pass away; and their stories go with them. Missouri Veterans Stories collects these stories from our Veterans and displays them for the benefit of our Veterans, our state and our country. The program is open to all men and women currently residing in Missouri who have served in any branch of the United States military.

Flags at Half-Staff

The United States flag and the Missouri state flag are flown at half-staff on all government buildings for one full day, as determined by the Governor, whenever a Missouri resident and member of the military forces is killed in the line of duty.

Museum of Missouri Military History

Located on the Ike Skelton Training Center, this museum houses exhibits beginning from 1808, the activation date of the Missouri Militia. Exhibits continue from the War of 1812 to Desert Storm. The building that houses the collection was built in the 1920s and used as a self-contained dormitory for prisoners working the dairy farm. Open to the public Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed all major holidays. Free admission.

Museum of Missouri Military History

2302 Military Drive

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: 573-638-9603

Hours: Year Around Schedule

Monday – Friday 8:30 AM -3 PM

Admission: Free Admission



Minority Veterans

Minority Veterans statistically are often unaware of available benefits, and Minority Veterans Outreach initiatives are a contact source that can give them guidance and assistance in informing them about Veteran's benefits and encourage them to work with a Veterans Service Officer to apply for those benefits.

Missouri Veterans Commission

Rebecca Bradley
615 E. 13th St. Mailbox #13
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-889-3081
Rebecca.Bradley@mvc.dps.mo.gov
<http://mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/minority>

St. Louis VA Regional Office

Mario Lee
400 South 18th Street
Saint Louis, MO 63103
800-827-1000

St. Louis VA Medical Center

Elizabeth Jenkins
915 North Grand Blvd.
Saint Louis, MO 63106
314-289-6476

Truman VA Medical Center

Paula Williams
800 Hospital Drive
Columbia, MO 65201-5297
573-814-6000

Pershing Medical Center

James Todd
1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-686-4267

Kansas City VA Medical Center

Lesley Andrews
4801 Linwood Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64127
816-861-4700

Ombuds- man

The Missouri Veterans Commission Veterans Ombudsman handles all inquiries both internal and external that do not immediately fit into one of the core programs offered by the Missouri Veterans Commission. The Ombudsman refers these inquiries to the appropriate agency or organization for resolution, including but not limited to: the Veteran Services Program for assistance in applying for VA benefits, the Homes Program for admission, the Cemeteries Program for pre-certification, connection to local, state and national resources that are available for transition out of the military and into civilian life, and any new national and state programs that further assist Veterans, service members and their families with any extraordinary need that is not being met by other agencies or organizations.

Melissa Wilding
Veterans Ombudsman
205 Jefferson Street, 12th Floor
573-522-4220
melissa.wilding@mvc.dps.mo.gov

Dept. of Revenue Military Liaison

<http://dor.mo.gov/pdf/milrefguide.pdf>

The Missouri Department of Revenue has designated a “Military Liaison” to assist military personnel with questions about Missouri income tax, driver licenses, motor vehicle registrations, and other issues. Please call (573) 751-3622 and ask for the Department’s Military Liaison, or e-mail the Department at military@dor.mo.gov. You may also obtain information about tax, motor vehicle, and driver license from the Department by contacting:

Taxation Division
PO Box 2200
Jefferson City, MO 65105-2200
Phone: (573) 751-3505
Fax: (573) 751-2195

Income Tax Exemption for Certain Retirement Benefits

Beginning January 1, 2010, 15% of a military pension income will be exempt from state taxes. This tax deduction will increase 15% annually until January 1, 2016, when all military pension income will be tax free.

Property Tax Exemption for Total Service-Connected Disabled Prisoners of War

<http://dor.mo.gov/personal/>
573-751-3505

As of January 1, 2011, any citizen of Missouri who is a former Prisoner of War as defined by law, and who has a total service-connected disability, shall be exempt from owing taxes on all real property used as a homestead as defined by law.

Tax Benefits

Dept.
of

Revenue

<http://dor.mo.gov>

573-751-4450

Personal Property Tax Credit

<http://dor.mo.gov/tax/personal/ptc/>

The Missouri Property Tax Credit Claim gives credit to certain senior citizens and 100 percent disabled individuals for a portion of the real estate taxes or rent paid for the year. The credit is for a maximum of \$750 for renters and \$1,100 for owners who owned and occupied their home. The actual credit is based on the amount of real estate taxes or rent paid and total household income (taxable and nontaxable). If you rent from a facility that does not pay property taxes, you are not eligible for a Property Tax Credit.



Voting: Military & Overseas

[www.sos.mo.gov/
elections/military/
default.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/military/default.asp)
573-751-2301

Missouri wants to make the process of voting as easy as possible for the military and make the process run smoothly. Military and overseas voters are welcome to use the regular registration and absentee mail process available to all voters away from their home jurisdiction on Election Day. There are also special provisions which will make voting absentee an easy process.

Federal voting law defines "overseas" as anywhere outside the United States including Canada and Mexico.

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) requires states to allow certain groups of citizens to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal offices. U.S. citizens may vote in the state where they last resided immediately prior to departing the United States, even though many years have passed and the intent to return to that state may not be certain.

Each uniformed and overseas voter who submits an absentee ballot request will receive an absentee ballot through the next two regularly scheduled general elections for federal office. Missouri requires voters to be registered at least thirty days prior to an election in order to vote a full ballot (includes local and state issues). Without prior registration, military and overseas voters may vote only for federal candidates.

Eligibility: A member of the U.S. Uniformed Services, which includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; a member of the U.S. merchant marines; Spouses and dependents of the above; a U.S. citizen domiciled in Missouri but temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the United States.

Women Veterans

Women Veterans initiatives ensures that Women Veterans have equitable access to federal and state Veterans services and ensure Women Veterans are aware of their VA benefits, know who to contact, and how to apply for these benefits.

Missouri Veterans Commission

Amy Bennett

525 Jules, Room 320

St. Joseph, MO 64501

Phone: 1-816-387-2841

E-Mail: amy.bennett@mvc.dps.mo.gov

<http://mvc.dps.mo.gov/service/women/>

St. Louis VA Regional Office

Christie Parker-Williams

400 South, 18th Street

St. Louis, MO 63103

Phone: 1-800-827-1000

St. Louis Medical Center

Jennifer Cunningham

1 Jefferson Barracks Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63125

314-652-4100

Kansas City Medical Center

4801 Linwood Boulevard

Kansas City, MO 64128

816-861-4700

Truman VA Medical Center

Cindy Stivers

800 Hospital Drive

Columbia, MO 65201-5297

573-814-6000

Pershing Medical Center

Marsha Shivley

1500 N. Westwood Blvd.

Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

573-778-4044

Yellow Ribbon Reinte- gration Program

The Secretary of Defense initiated the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program which provides information, services, referral, and proactive outreach programs to Service Members of the Reserve and Guard components through all phases of the deployment cycle. The goal of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is to prepare Service Members and Families for mobilization, sustain Families during mobilization, and reintegrate Soldiers with their Families, communities, and employers upon redeployment or REFRAD.

For more information about your unit's Yellow Ribbon program, please contact your unit or your family assistance program.

Other Outreach

The Missouri Veterans Commission provides information at many events around the state on state and federal benefits and provides access to a Veterans Service Officer so Service Members and family members have the opportunity to ask questions and file for their benefits. Contact the Missouri Veterans Commission Central Office at 573-751-3779 and ask to speak to the Outreach Specialist to learn more about events in your area or go online to the outreach calendar at www.mvc.dps.mo.gov.

Federal Benefits for Veterans

Dependents & Survivors

2011 Edition



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Get your copy of the Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans online
at http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp

